Attorney Docket: 381AS/50959

**PATENT** 

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

FUMIHIKO OKAI ET AL.

Serial No.:

NOT YET ASSIGNED

Filed:

**FEBRUARY 27, 2002** 

Title:

VEHICLE CONTROL APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.56

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

February 27, 2002

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

## STATEMENT OF RELEVANCE

The relevance of these references to the subject matter of the present invention is given in the <u>Background and Summary of the Invention</u> in the specification of the present invention.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

Serial No. NOT YET ASSIGNED

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Serial No. Attorney Docket No. U.S. Department of Commerce FORM PTO-1449 NOT YET 381AS/50959 Patent & Trademark Office ASSIGNED Fumihiko OKAI et al Applicant: INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary) Filing Date Group February 27, 2002 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS Sub-Filing Date Examiner Document (if appropriate) Class Date Name Class Number Initial 364 461 06/25/96 Uemura et al AA5,530,651 ABACADAEAF AG AHΑI ΑJ FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS TRANSLATION Sub-Examiner Document No Date Name Class Class Initial Number AK ALAM AN AO AP OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) AQ

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication.

DATE CONSIDERED

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**EXAMINER**